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The Single Tax Movement in the United States. By ARTHUR NICHOLS YOUNG. (Princeton: Princeton University Press. 1916. Pp. x, 340.)

The Single Tax Movement in the United States has found an impartial chronicler in Dr. Arthur Nichols Young. After a brief view of the precursors of Henry George, and a description of the peculiar economic environment in California during his formative years, the narrative begins with an account of the activities which led to the writing of *Progress and Poverty*, and rapidly unfolds after the republication of that remarkable book in New York. The friendly reviews of the new work soon gave place to heated criticism as popular enthusiasm brought the agitation within the realm of practical politics. From his arrival in New York in 1880, until his dramatic death on the eve of the mayoralty election in 1897, Henry George lived at high tension: writing, traveling, lecturing, spending his whole power in defending and popularizing his disturbing doctrine. The last half of the volume is given up to a clear and detailed summary of the political activities of single taxers in the States where their efforts have been concentrated, and an appraisal of the general scope and significance of the movement. A bibliography and index complete a useful study.

Confining the investigation to the United States has led unavoidably to a somewhat arbitrary picture of what is essentially a world movement. A second volume would be needed to trace the influence of Henry George upon the economic development of the British Empire, the reception of his ideas in Europe, and present tendencies in some of the Spanish-American republics.

In reviewing the course of the single tax movement, the historian notes a tendency to shift the emphasis from abstract reasoning to concrete political issues, although it was admittedly the human appeal which gave vitality to *Progress and Poverty*, with its passionate assertion that "private property in land is a bold, bare, enormous wrong, like that of chattel slavery." To socialize the rent of land and abolish all taxes (save that on land values) involves so revolutionary a process that his followers have been prone to take Henry George's advice and seek the line of least resistance. Their efforts have been directed to obtaining separate assessments of land and improvements, to securing home rule in taxation, direct legislation, and even to advocacy of the income tax as a means of reaching a part of the unearned increment.

Thus it is maintained that, while single taxers have been an impor-

tant factor in tax reform, they "have not been able to convince many that private ownership of land is ethically on a different basis from other property, or that to expropriate owners of existing land values is more just than to expropriate owners of other property values." Their work still lies ahead. Unaided today by the popular appeal of such striking personalities as Father McGlynn, Tom L. Johnson or Joseph Fels, they must win a hostile public to a belief in the equal rights of all to the use of the earth, or see the single tax movement relegated to the scrap heap of discarded Utopias.

FRANK W. GARRISON.

The Socialism of To-Day. Edited by WILLIAM ENGLISH WALLING, J. G. PHELPS STOKES, and others. (New York: H. Holt and Company. 1916. Pp. xvi, 642.)

This volume is offered as "a source book of the present position and recent development of the socialist and labor parties in all countries, consisting mainly of original documents." It is edited by a committee of the Intercollegiate Socialist Society and is introduced by an historical sketch of the growth of socialism (chapter I), stressing chiefly the platforms of its international congresses. Then follow in sections II-V, twenty-four chapters tracing the recent progress of the socialist movement in the various nations of the earth, emphasizing in brief, sketchy chapters official resolutions, platforms and important discussions, and also presenting tabulations of the results of recent elections, showing comparative gains and losses. From the demands of the socialist platforms throughout the civilized world one may get in brief form a most excellent study of the various aspects of radicalism in widely differing types of civilization, so that these chapters are most helpful and suggestive.

Most readers, however, will be best pleased with Part II, which devotes twenty chapters to a brief presentation and discussion of the attitude of socialism towards social problems. A brief statement of the problem introduces each chapter, and then follow official declarations and opinions, with indications as to the probable socialist policy towards each of the problems discussed, such problems, for example, as the general strike, unemployment, immigration and woman suffrage. In these discussions naturally most attention is given to English-speaking countries and to France and Germany.

An Appendix discusses "Preparedness" from the standpoint of Amer-